

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 23 as follows:

For addressing the foregoing problems, a method such as increase of the welding currents or ~~the~~ joining by laser welding is considered. However, in welding by ~~the~~ this method, molten aluminum can extend to an exposed place of anode body 11A such as a cut surface of anode section 13, or can be splashed. As a result, the new following problems occur: damage of the outward appearance, reduction in air tightness because of ~~the~~ a decrease of the thickness of packaging resin 17 by an amount corresponding to the extending aluminum, and occurrence of a short circuit.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 14 as follows:

In the solid electrolytic capacitor of the present embodiment, anode sections 3 of capacitor elements 1 are joined to anode lead frame 5 via through hole 5A in anode lead frame 5 by resistance welding. Current collects to through hole 5A during the resistance welding by welding electrode 8. As shown in Fig. 5 in detail, the collection breaks film layer 1B formed on a surface of anode sections 3 to expose anode body 1A, and molten aluminum collects into through hole 5A. The resistance welding can be therefore performed extremely easily and certainly. As a result, welding workability, welding strength, and reliability are improved, and an ESR characteristic is stabilized. The molten aluminum is not splashed to the outside at all, differently from the prior art, so that any degradation of air tightness or short circuit due to the splashing does not occur at all and good joining work can be stably performed.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 19 as follows:

Total area of the through hole is preferably set at least 1.5 times the thickness of anode lead frame 5. This configuration further stabilizes the welding strength. When the thickness of anode lead frame 5 is 0.1 mm, for example, the total area of the through hole is set at 0.15 mm² or more. When the thickness of anode lead frame 5 is 0.2 mm, the total area of the through hole is set at 0.30 mm² or more.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 13 as follows:

This structure is especially advantageous when metal-~~joint~~ joining between anode section 3 and anode lead frame 5 by resistance welding is difficult because the material of anode section 3 is different from that of anode lead frame 5. Even in this case, a metallic material easily joined to metals of them is selected as a material forming rivet 9, thereby improving welding performance to allow stable production of a highly reliable solid electrolytic capacitor.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 4 as follows:

Table 2 results in the following observation. Even when a combination of a material of anode section 3 and a material of anode lead frame 5 provides unstable welding performance in the case of no rivet 9, the welding performance is improved by selecting an appropriate material for rivet 9. Even when a combination of a material for anode section 3 of capacitor element 1 and a material for anode lead frame 5 makes alloy formation difficult, a rivet made of a material ~~facilitating~~ facilitating the alloy formation can be selected and anode section 3 and anode lead frame 5 can be resistance-welded together. When an inappropriate material is selected, the welding performance decreases. Attention must be directed toward selection and combination of materials.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 17 as follows:

As shown in Fig. 11, during resistance welding between anode lead frame 5 and capacitor elements 1 in the solid electrolytic capacitor of the present embodiment, aluminum provided by melting anode bodies 1A collects into through holes 3A and through hole 5A. Thus, anode lead frame 5 is joined to capacitor elements 1. Stable-~~joint~~ joining is therefore allowed without heavily damaging appearance. As a result, increase or dispersion of the ESR following instability of welding is suppressed, and a solid electrolytic capacitor having high reliability can be stably manufactured.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 25 as follows:

Rivet 9 or spacer 10 discussed in embodiment 2 or 3 may be employed in the solid electrolytic capacitor of the present embodiment. In this case, rivet 9 or spacer 10

preferably penetrates through both through holes 3A and 5A. Rivet 9 preferably holds anode lead frame 5 and the plurality of anode sections 3 by crimping. Anode sections 3 are conducted to anode lead frame 5 only by the crimping, but resistance welding between rivet 9 and anode sections 3 strengthens the joint and improves the ESR characteristic. Especially, this configuration of the present embodiment is advantageous when metal ~~joint~~ joining between them by resistance welding is difficult because the material of anode sections 3 is different from that of anode lead frame.